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cc - Howard Bleyer

RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES NETWORK — *RUN*

APR 21 1980

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April 17, 1980

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TO : RUN Members

FROM: Jerold Roschwalb
Carol Scheman
Newton Cattell

Patent Policy

Senators Bayh and Long have agreed that floor debate on S. 414 (Universities and Small Business Patent Procedures Act) will take place on Wednesday, April 23, 1980. Action on the first Budget Resolution may interfere with or interrupt the schedule. In any case, the time to contact Senators is now.

Senator Long's intentions are not clear, so we should request that Senators reject all opposing or weakening amendments. The principal message continues to be one of moving the bill to a vote.

Long is reported to have an amendment that would vest title with the government and give 5 years exclusive license to universities and small businesses. This compares unfavorably with S. 414 which vests title with universities and small businesses. They, in turn, may grant exclusive licenses to big businesses for 5 years and to small businesses for 17 years. This information on the Long amendment is intended as background. Until we know more about Long's intentions, we should not confuse the request for Senate support.

House and Senate Budget Resolutions

The following is background on imminent congressional budget action. At this writing both budget resolutions will be on their respective floors during the week of April 21. Both House and Senate committees propose to cut programs of interest to RUN universities, in most cases to a greater degree than the Administration's revised Budget. It is very likely that we will request that you contact House and Senate members later this week or early next week.

In Health Manpower, the 1980 appropriation is approximately $500 million (for all health professions). The President's budget calls for $100 million recissions and the Budget Committees assume these recissions. In '81, the President and the Budget Committees provide only $350 million for all health manpower programs. Congressional staff warn that once these funds are lost, they will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to regain. A low budget ceiling, coupled with Budget Committee action may destroy any hope of adequate health manpower funding.